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person, and it would never occur to them as possible that all persons not included in any particular faith, should be slain in this world or eternally damned in the next. This freedom from religious bigotry, which is enacted in one of the edicts of Asoka, doubtless accounts for the readiness with which a Ladáki will change his or her religion, when, from a worldly point of view, it suits so to do.

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HELL--ngiáwa or ngiálwa. The Buddhists have 18 different hells, such as the hot hell, the cold hell, etc. They imagine that when the allotted number of re-births or re-embodiments has taken place, the soul, or "sem", should attain "nirvána", or, as they would put it, go to heaven (thoris thop ches), but if owing to sins (rdikpa) committed in this world (jiktén), the soul is unfit for nirvána (stongpa ngýid), it has to go to one of the hells for a certain period. There is no such a thing as eternal punishment in the Buddhist religious code. Eedaks or Yeedaks is the name of a kind of hell, or according to Jaschke "the fifth class of beings of Buddhist cosmography condemned in a fore-hell to suffer perpetual hunger and thirst; a grade of punishment preceding the final and full torments of hell, they are represented as giants with huge bellies and very narrow throats, inhabiting the air."

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Between the time of death and re-birth the disembodied soul is said to be wandering about in space (khorwároo kiám ches), it does not go to heaven or hell between the periods of re-birth. But see also "Metempsychosis."

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[61]HERMAPHRODITE--Not known in Ladák. Ladákis think ill luck is caused by human monstrosities, and it is therefore probable that these are killed as soon as they are born.

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HIGHWAYMEN--chakpa. Highway robbery is unknown in Ladák, but in Chángtháng (Lhása territory), where the people are less timid than Ladákis, it occasionally happens that Ladák trading parties are attacked by Tartar robbers termed "chakpa". ArGHóns (see half caste) are more than a match for these highwaymen, but the Bots (i. e. Ladák Buddhists) seldom attempt resistance, although their party may far outnumber that of the robbers.

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HINGE--kabza. The Ladákis don't use hinges--an iron hook and eye arrangement serves with them for a hinge.